

Application No. 10/626,263
Amendment dated March 5, 2007
Reply to Office Action of October 5, 2006

Docket No.: 30565/38931

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A storage apparatus for safely storing documents, comprising:

a first transparent sheet;
a second sheet attached to the first transparent sheet along a permanent waterproof seal, the permanent waterproof seal including a continuous seam defining a pocket between the first transparent sheet and the second sheet, the pocket having an open end, the seam including a first endpoint and a second endpoint;

[[an]] a length of adherent disposed on one of between the first transparent sheet and the second sheet and across the open end of the pocket and contacting the first endpoint and the second endpoint, wherein when the other of the first transparent sheet and the second sheet contacts the adherent across the open end of the pocket, the continuous seam and the adherent form a waterproof pocket; and

a releasable tape disposed on the adherent such that the adherent is adapted to selectively selectively adhere the first transparent sheet to the second sheet across the open end to close the pocket, so that the pocket is liquid tight; and

an attachment section disposed along a side of the first and second sheet and adapted to mount the storage apparatus within a container.

2. (original) The storage apparatus of claim 1, wherein the seal is air tight.

3. (canceled).

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4. (currently amended) The storage apparatus of claim 1 ~~claim 3~~, wherein the seal is a heat seal between the first sheet and the second sheet.

5. (currently amended) The storage apparatus of claim 1 ~~claim 3~~, wherein the second sheet is transparent

6. (currently amended) The storage apparatus of claim 1 ~~claim 3~~, wherein the continuous seam seal includes a first linear segment, a second linear segment, and a third linear segment.

7. (currently amended) The storage apparatus of claim 6, wherein the first linear segment extends approximately horizontally across the first sheet, the second linear segment extends approximately vertically across the first sheet, and the third linear segment extends approximately horizontally across the first sheet.

8. (original) The storage apparatus of claim 7, wherein the pocket forms an approximately 4 inch by 6 inch rectangle.

9. (original) The storage apparatus of claim 7, wherein the pocket forms an approximately 3 ½ inch by 5 inch rectangle.

10. (canceled).

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11. (currently amended) The storage apparatus of claim 1 ~~claim 3~~, further comprising a second seal between the first sheet and the second sheet, the second seal defining a second pocket with an open end.

12. (original) The storage apparatus of claim 11, wherein the adherent is disposed across the open end of the second pocket.

13. (original) The storage apparatus of claim 12, wherein the second pocket is approximately 4 inches by 6 inches.

14. (original) The storage apparatus of claim 12, wherein the second pocket is sized to receive a strip of negatives from a 35 mm camera.

15. (currently amended) The storage apparatus of claim 1 ~~claim 3~~, wherein the attachment section is a chamber bounded by a continuous water-tight seal.

16. (original) The storage apparatus of claim 15, wherein the chamber includes a plurality of holes sized and spaced such that the storage apparatus can be received in a loose leaf binder.

17. (currently amended) The storage apparatus of claim 1 ~~claim 3~~, wherein the adherent is releasable.

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18. (currently amended) The storage apparatus of claim 1 claim-3, wherein the first sheet and the second sheet are comprised of a single sheet folded over itself.

19. (currently amended) The storage apparatus of claim 1 claim-3, wherein the adherent includes an aggressive adhesive and a nonaggressive adhesive disposed on either side of a tape.

20. (original) The storage apparatus of claim 19, wherein the aggressive adhesive is adhered to the second sheet, and a releasable tape is disposed across the nonaggressive adhesive, thereby separating the nonaggressive adhesive from the first sheet.

21-23. (canceled).

24. (currently amended) A method of manufacturing a device for safely storing a document, including:

~~disposing an adherent along a length of a first sheet;~~
attaching the a first sheet to a second sheet along a permanent liquid tight seal to form an open ended pocket between the first sheet and the second sheet, the permanent liquid tight seal comprising a continuous seam having a first endpoint and a second endpoint, ~~the first end and the second end being disposed abutting the adherent;~~ and

disposing a length of adherent on the first sheet and across the open end of the pocket,
wherein the length of adherent contacts the first endpoint and the second endpoint, wherein
when the second sheet contacts the adhesive across the open end of the pocket, the
continuous seam and the adherent form a waterproof pocket;

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disposing a releasable tape on the adherent such that the adherent is adapted to
selectably adhere the first sheet to the second sheet; and
forming an attachment section next to the pocket, the attachment section adapted to
mount the two sheets to a photo album. [;]
~~wherein the adherent is selectively applicable to the second sheet to close the pocket,~~
~~such that the pocket is liquid tight.~~

25. (original) The method of claim 24, wherein attaching the first sheet to the second sheet includes heat sealing the first sheet to the second sheet.

26. (original) The method of claim 24, wherein disposing the adherent includes using a dual sided tape.

27. (original) The method of claim 26, wherein the dual sided tape includes an aggressive adhesive and a non-aggressive adhesive.

28. (original) The method of claim 26, wherein the dual sided tape includes a pair of aggressive adhesives.

29. (original) The method of claim 26, wherein the adherent includes a releasable tape.

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30. (currently amended) A storage apparatus for safely storing documents, comprising:

 a first transparent sheet;

 a second sheet attached to the first transparent sheet along a permanent liquid tight seal, the permanent liquid tight seal including a vertical seam and two horizontal seams meeting at corners to define a three-sided pocket between the first transparent sheet and the second sheet, the pocket having an open end, the horizontal seams each having endpoints opposite the vertical seam;

 an attachment section disposed along a side of the first and second sheet and adapted to mount the storage apparatus within a container;

 an adhesive disposed on one of the first and second sheets and across the open end of the pocket and abutting contacting the endpoints of the horizontal seams, wherein when the other of the first and second sheet contacts the adhesive across the open end, the vertical seam, the horizontal seams, and the adhesive form a waterproof pocket; and

 a releasable tape disposed on the adhesive such that the adhesive is adapted to selectively selectably adhere the first sheet to the second sheet across the open end to close the pocket, such that the pocket is liquid-tight.

31. (original) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the attachment section is a chamber defined by a continuous water-tight seal.

32. (canceled).

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33. (original) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the adhesive includes a dual sided tape with a non-aggressive adhesive disposed on a first side of the tape, and an aggressive adhesive disposed on the second side of the tape.

34. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the permanent seal between the first and second sheets is one of a heat seal, permanent adhesive, and sonic weld.